

# View-Master® Interactive Vision™ Television System (VMIV)

### Installing and Operating Instructions

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#### CAUTION—ELECTRICALLY OPERATED PRODUCT:

Not recommended for children under 3 years of age.

As with all electrical products, precautions should be observed during handling and use to prevent electric shock.

AC Adapter: Input: 120 VAC, 60 Hz.

Output: 16 VAC, C.T., 800 mA.

### System Requirements:

- 1. The VCR must be VHS format.
- The VCR must have AUDIO OUT and VIDEO OUT jacks. Almost all VCRs are equipped with these, but you should check the back of your VCR to be sure.

If your VCR does not have AUDIO OUT and VIDEO OUT Jacks, please call 1-800-292-9843, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Pacific time, and you will be sent, at no cost to you, a special adapter that will enable you to connect and use the system.

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### **NOTE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

### Dear Parents/Guardians:

View-Master® Interactive Vision™ Television System (VMIV) offers a two-way television viewing experience that's both entertaining and educational. Your child will play games, construct songs and stories, and respond to questions asked by his or her favorite TV and movie characters, who will react differently according to the answers.

To help your child get the most out of VMIV, please read this booklet completely before you operate the system.

The booklet contains the following major sections:

- SETTING UP. VMIV connects to your VCR and TV for a
  one-time setup. Once connected, it remains ready to play
  and does not interfere with regular TV and VCR viewing.
  Setting up the system is very simple with most video
  system configurations. Pages 6-19 contain clear
  instructions and diagrams to help you connect VMIV to
  your system.
- OPERATING THE SYSTEM. This section explains briefly how to start, stop, pause, rewind or fast-forward VMIV. Each interactive videocassette provides instructions on the use of the Electronic Controller with its joystick and buttons. VMIV is an electrically operated product; therefore, each time your child is ready to play, we recommend that you switch on your VMIV, VCR and TV and insert the interactive videocassette. However, if your child is old enough to work a VCR, you may wish to go over the OPERATING section (pages 20-21) with him or her.

It is a good idea to re-read the OPERATING section after you have played an interactive videocassette a few times.

## NOTE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS

 TROUBLE-SHOOTING. In the unlikely event you have a problem in operating the View-Master® Interactive Vision™ Television System, this section provides suggestions for remedying the problem.

We also recommend that you remain with your child the first time he or she operates the system. That way, you will be able to share in the child's enjoyment as well as ensure that everything is working smoothly. We hope you and your family enjoy View-Master® Interactive Vision™ Television System and the unique interactive TV experience it provides.

Please keep these instructions handy for future reference, and remember to send in your Warranty Registration Card within ten days of purchase.

If you have any questions or problems that are not answered in this booklet, please call us at our toll-free customer service hot line, 1-800-292-9843, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Pacific time.

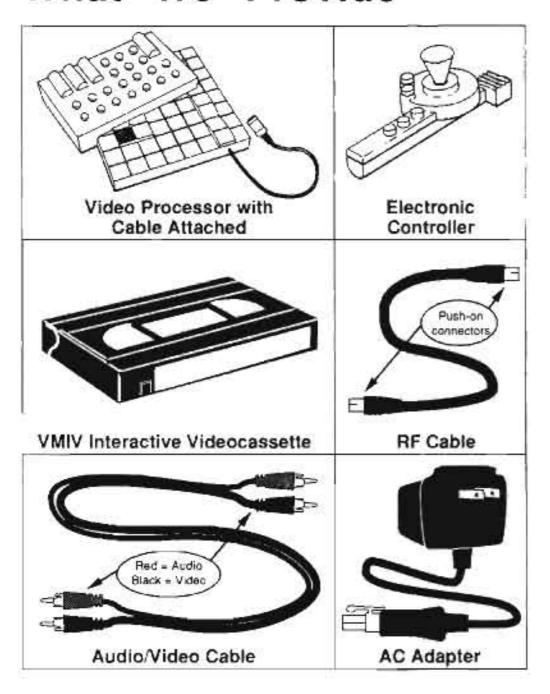
# Important Safety Tips

- Observe Warnings. Read all safety and operating instructions before operating the system, and all warnings on system components should be observed.
- Power Sources. The system should be connected only to the AC Adapter supplied with this product (see SETTING UP).
- Object and Liquid Entry. Care should be taken so that small objects do not fall and liquids are not spilled into system components.
- Temperature. System components should not be exposed to extreme heat or cold.
- Ventilation. Your VMIV Video Processor has ventilation openings in its cabinet to release heat generated during operation. Blocking these openings can cause heat buildup inside the unit, causing failures that may result in a fire hazard. For protection, avoid obstructing the ventilation openings with any foreign objects.

## **SETTING UP**

Before you can set up your View-Master<sup>®</sup> Interactive Vision<sup>™</sup> (VMIV) Television System, you should make sure you have everything you need. Pages 6 and 7 provide this information.

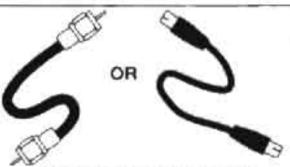
# What We Provide



# What You Provide



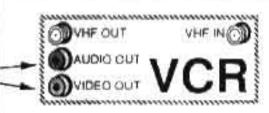
TV with VHF IN (also called ANT in, RF in, or TV in)



RF cable that is presently attached to the VHF OUT jack on your VCR.

Note: There are two types of RF connectors, acrew-on and push-on. Either type will work fine.

Note: If your VCR does not have Audio Out and Video Out jacks, please call 1-800-292-9843, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Pacific time, and you will be sent, at no cost to you, a special adapter that will enable you to connect and use the system.



VCR—1/2" VHS (not Beta), with AUDIO OUT and VIDEO OUT.

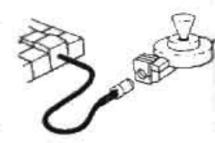
# Step-By-Step Installation

1. Turn off your VCR and TV.

### 2. Adjust switch settings:

- Channel switches on the back of VCR and the View-Master® Interactive Vision™ Television stem (VMIV) should both be set to 3 or 4.
- . The TV should be tuned to the same channel (either 3 or 4).
- 3. Connect the Electronic Controller Unit.

  Take the black cable attached to the front of the VMIV Video Processor, and attach it to the Electronic Controller Unit with its joystick and buttons. A small rib has been added to make sure the plug fits only in one position. Align the plug carefully.



4. Find the cable attached to your VCR at the jack labelled VHF OUT. (Depending on the VCR, this jack may also be called RF OUT. OUT to TV. TV OUT. or something similar.) See what the other end of that cable is attached to.

### If the cable connects...

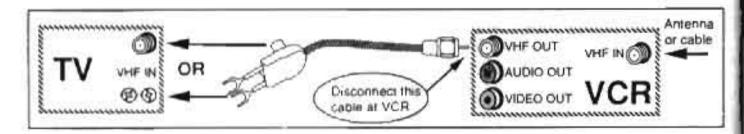
Adirectly to your TV (for stereo TV, see D. below)	See Page 10.
Bto a cable converter box	See Page 12.
Cto a switch box to which a cable converter box, electronic game or home computer is also connected	See Page 14.
Dto your stereo TV, with audio and video cables also attached (Please read "A Note on Stereo," page 18)	See Page 16.

### Abbreviated Instructions (for the technically inclined)

- From the viewpoint of signal flow, the View Master<sup>®</sup> Interactive Vision<sup>™</sup> Television System (VMIV) should always be positioned immediately after the VCR.
- When the VMIV is turned off, the RF signal is passed through (via RF IN and RF OUT) to TV without being modified
- Interactive videocassettes are encoded for interactions. Code, graphics, and sound for the games and other interactions are passed to VMIV for processing. This data travels via AUDIO/VIDEO (RCA cables) from the VCR to VMIV.
- VMIV sends its signal to the TV via the RF cable.

# Configuration A: Your VCR connects directly to your TV.

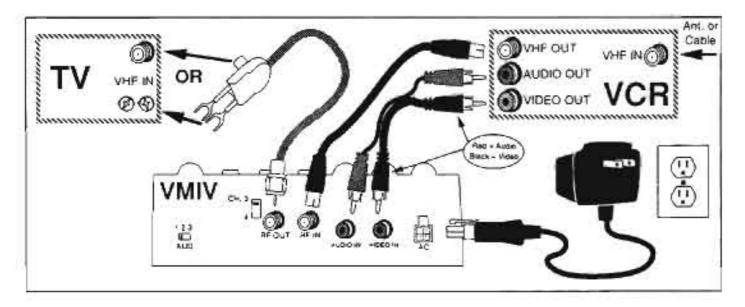
Your current configuration looks something like this:



### Configuration A, Without VMIV

- Disconnect the cable attached to the VHF OUT jack on the VCR.
- Attach that cable to the View-Master® Interactive Vision™
  Television System as Illustrated on the next page.

Attach the other cables as illustrated below.

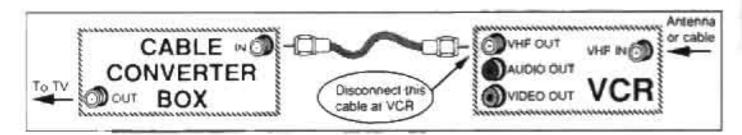


Configuration A, With VMIV Connected

### SETTING UP

## Configuration B: Your VCR connects to a cable converter box.

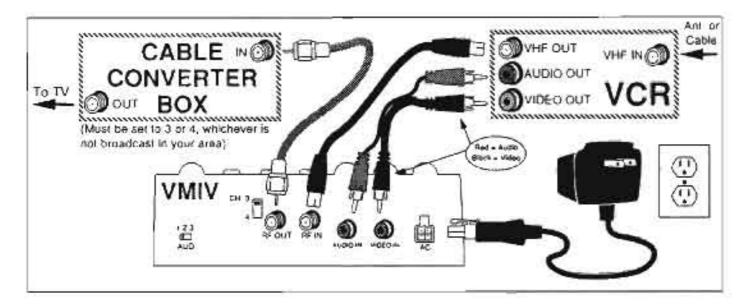
If the cable attached to the VHF OUT jack on your VCR goes to a cable converter box instead of straight to the TV, your current configuration looks something like this:



### Configuration B, Without VMIV

- Disconnect the cable attached to the VHF OUT jack on the VCR.
- Attach that cable to the View-Master® Interactive Vision™
  Television System as illustrated on the next page.

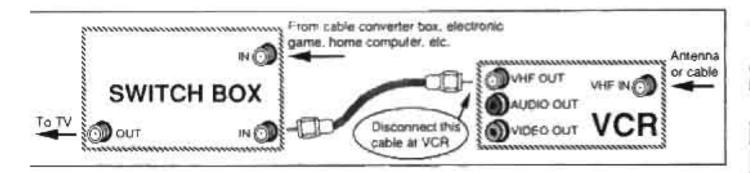
Attach the other cables as illustrated below.



Configuration B, With VMIV Connected

### Configuration C: Your VCR connects to a switch box.

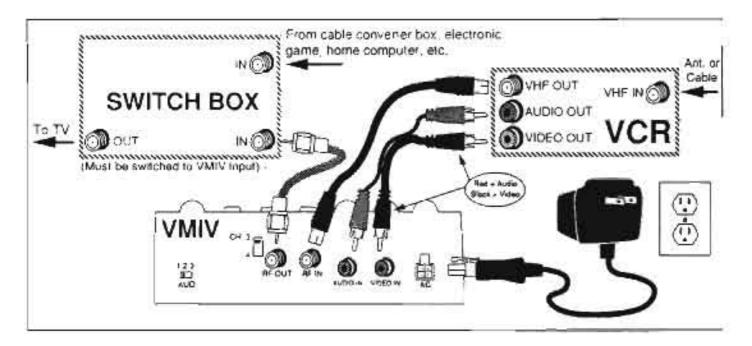
If the cable attached to the VHF OUT jack on your VCR goes to a switch box instead of straight to the TV, your current configuration looks something like this:



### Configuration C, Without VMIV

- Disconnect the cable attached to the VHF OUT jack on the VCR.
- Attach that cable to the View-Master® Interactive Vision™
  Television System as illustrated on the next page.

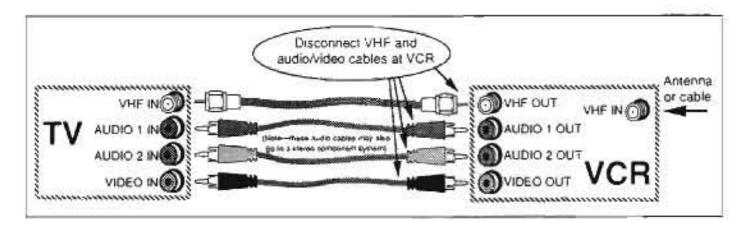
Attach the other cables as illustrated below.



Configuration C, With VMIV Connected

# Configuration D: Your VCR connects to a stereo TV, with audio and video cables also attached.

If the cable attached to the VHF OUT jack on your VCR goes to a stereo TV, and you also have audio and video cables connecting the VCR to the TV, your current configuration looks something like this:

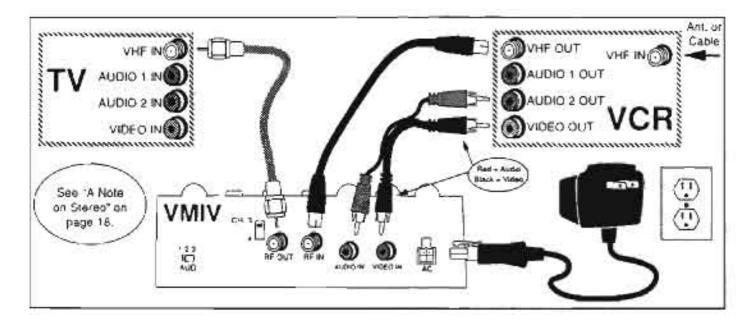


### Configuration D, Without VMIV

- Disconnect the cable attached to the VHF OUT jack on the VCR. Attach that cable to the View-Master® Interactive Vision™ Television System as illustrated on the next page.
- Also disconnect the audio and video cables from the VCR. Refer to pages 18-19 for a note on how to utilize these cables to maintain stereo capability.



 Attach cables as illustrated below. (Note: To maintain stereo capability, please read "A Note on Stereo" on pages 18-19.)



Configuration D, With VMIV Connected

### SETTING UP

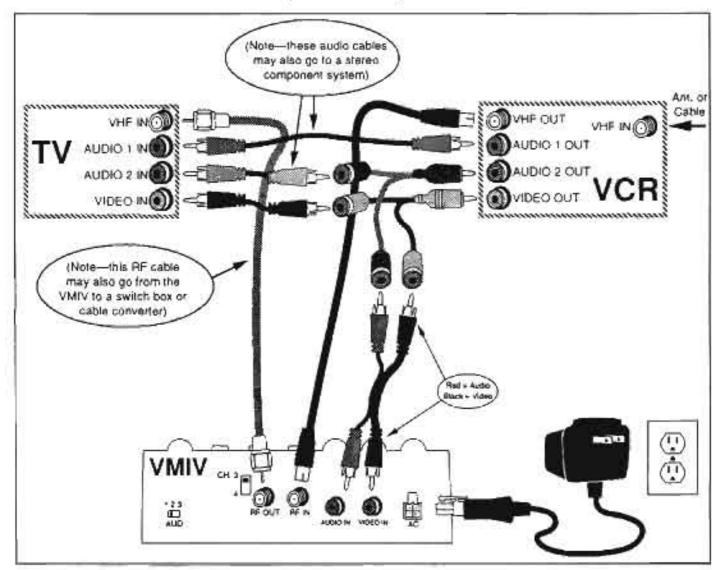
### A Note on Stereo

No matter what type of stereo configuration you have, you will be able to use the View-Master® Interactive Vision<sup>TM</sup>
Television System (VMIV) with no problem.

- If your TV has MTS (multi-channel television sound) capability, broadcast stereo will be transmitted to the TV through the RF cable as normal.
- If your stereo or Hi-Fi TV receives its audio and video signal from the VCR's AUDIO OUT and VIDEO OUT jacks, then you can install the VMIV as diagrammed on page 17 for normal monaural operation. The VIDEO OUT and one of the AUDIO OUT signals will be diverted to the VMIV, and a monaural (or MTS) RF signal will be transmitted to the TV.
- To maintain Hi-Fi or stereo capability, you can purchase two additional, inexpensive RCA Y-connector cables (illustrated at the right) which are readily available in most consumer electronics stores. Install them as illustrated in the diagram on page 19.



## A Note on Stereo (continued)



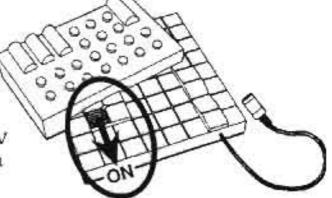
### Configuration D, With VMIV and Stereo

 When the Y-connectors have been installed, you will have two different sets of input to the TV. Your TV probably has a switch in the front panel for choosing between these input options. To operate the VMIV, you will set the TV to ANT IN, VHF IN, TV IN, or RF IN, and you can simply switch to EXT IN or VIDEO IN for normal stereo operation.

## **OPERATING THE SYSTEM**

# Starting Up

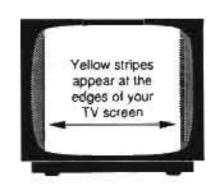
- Slide the square switch to turn the View-Master<sup>®</sup> Interactive Vision<sup>™</sup> Television System (VMIV) on.
- Turn the TV and VCR on. Tune the TV to channel 3 or 4, to match the switch settings on your VCR and VMIV.



- 3. Insert the interactive videocassette into the VCR.
- Press "Play" on the VCR. (Note: In these operating instructions, all videotape operations, such as playing, pausing, rewinding, and fast forwarding, apply to controls on your VCR.)
- The first time you use any interactive videocassette, be sure to view the instructions at the beginning.

# Starting and Stopping

Yellow stripes appear on the video from time to time as indicators for good points to start or restart the tape. The best place to start or stop the tape is during the display of these yellow stripes. You can start the tape from anywhere, but if the yellow stripes are not visible at your starting point, the interactive features of the tape may not function immediately.



# Replaying an Interaction

- Find the interaction you want to replay.
- 2. Rewind the tape to the first set of yellow stripes before that interaction.
- 3. Play the tape at normal speed.

## **Pausing**

 The best place to pause is when you can see the yellow stripes, the system will function normally when you resume play. If you pause at other places on the tape, some interactive features of the tape may be temporarily suspended. Remember, pausing should not be used frequently, because it will gradually degrade any videotape.

## Rewinding and Fast Forwarding

- The yellow stripes that appear on the video from time to time provide a starting point to replay an interaction. If you fast-forward or rewind the tape to a point where the yellow stripes are visible, then the interaction that starts after that stripe display will work normally.
- To replay the entire video, you should rewind to the first set of yellow stripes.
- You can rewind or fast forward to a favorite interaction by searching until you see the yellow stripes on the screen just before that interaction begins.

# Adjusting Sound Levels

 Some VCRs may require a simple adjustment to make the sound levels equal. The audio switch (on the back of the VMIV Video Processor) is factory-set to audio level 1. If during play you notice a marked difference in volume (for example, if the sound is loud and then too soft), try an audio switch setting of 2 or 3.

# Quitting

- If you are done, rewind the videocassette the entire way, eject the tape, place it in its protective sleeve, and turn off the VMIV. Remember rewinding completely will prolong the life of any videocassette.
- Your TV and VCR will now operate normally.

# TROUBLE-SHOOTING

Symptom	Possible Remedy		
I get no picture on my TV screen.	Make sure the TV and VCR are both turned on and the power cords are plugged in.  Turn the VMIV on and off; see if this has any effect on the picture. If it has no effect, your cables are not connected properly. Return to the appropriate SETTING UP diagram to double-check your cable connections.		
l get a clear picture but no sound.	Check your TV volume.  The audio cable may not be connected properly.  Note: If your TV has a setting for HRC, this has a special encoding for the audio signal which is incompatible with the VMIV. Do not use HRC; use settings for antenna or cable (CATV). The receiving mode on your TV must be set to channel 3 or 4.		
The audio is sometimes louder and sometimes quieter.	Adjust the audio switch (on the back of the VMIV Video Processor) to a different setting.		
The audio makes a "crackling" sound.	Adjust the tracking knob on your VCR. Refer to your VCR manual for details.		
The sound is sometimes on and sometimes off.	Check the connections of the audio cables.		
Regular TV programs or VCR videos don't play.	Turn off the VMIV Video Processor.  Check the configuration of the following cables: (1) The cable from VHF OUT on the VCR to RF IN on the VMIV: and (2) the cable from RF OUT on the VMIV to VHF IN on the TV. (Return to the appropriate SETTING UF diagram to double-check your cable connections.)		

# TROUBLE-SHOOTING

Symptom

Possible Remedy

	The second of th		
VMIV is turned off, but my TV only works on Channel 3.	Turn off your VCR.		
The interactive tape plays, but I can't get any interaction.	Make sure the VMIV Video Processor is turned on.  Make sure the Electronic Controller Unit is firmly connected to its cable.		
With VMIV connected, I can't get stereo on the TV.	Refer to "A Note on Stereo," page 18.		
Interactive functions don't work.	Start the interactive tape at the beginning or at the yellow stripes.		
Picture is fuzzy, has no color, has snow, jitters or noise lines.	Make sure the switch settings on the back of the TV, the VCR, and the VMIV are all set to 3 or 4 (whichever is not broadcast in your area).		
	If all the switch settings are on the same number, and you are still experiencing problems, you may be getting local broadcast interference. Try changing the switch settings to the alternate channel.		

# **Customer Support**

If none of the above remedies correct the problem, call our toll-free hot line for customer service at 1-800-292-9843, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Pacific time.

### **CARE AND MAINTENANCE**

### Care and Maintenance

- Do not use any Power Adapter other than the AC Adapter included with the View-Master<sup>®</sup> Interactive Vision<sup>™</sup> Television System (VMIV).
- Always turn the Video Processor Power Switch OFF when not in use.
- It is not recommended that you unplug the Remote Control Cable from the Electronic Controller Unit once it is connected. However, if your Electronic Controller Unit needs cleaning, turn off the Video Processor and unplug the Remote Control Cable. Then you may wipe the Electronic Controller Unit with a damp cloth. (Do not spray cleaners or water on the unit.) Then plug it back in.
- Do not disassemble or attempt to repair VMIV. Doing so will automatically void all warranties.
- Periodically examine the VMIV components for potential hazards, and be sure to repair or replace any potentially hazardous parts.
- Allow proper ventilation for the Video Processor while the system is in use. Do not obstruct heat vents on the Video Processor by placing objects (magazines, newspapers, etc.) on top of it.
- During operation, do not place the Video Processor on any "soft" surface (bed, sofa, pillow, etc.) that might block the air vents on the bottom of the unit.
- Rewind all your videocassettes completely in order to keep them in the best condition.
- Store VMIV Interactive Videocassettes in their protective sleeves when not in use.

# FCC Regulations

This system generates and uses radio frequency energy, and if not installed and used properly, that is, in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, may cause interference to radio and television reception. It has been type tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B computing device in accordance with the specifications in Subpart H of Part 15 of FCC Rules, which are designed to provide reasonable protection against such interference in a residential installation. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reposition the antenna on the radio or TV that is experiencing interference.
- Relocate VMIV with respect to the radio or TV that is experiencing interference.
- Move VMIV away from the radio or TV that is experiencing interference.
- Plug VMIV into a different outlet so that VMIV and the radio or TV are on different circuits.
- Plug VMIV into a three-prong isolation adapter (available in an electrical supply store).

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View-Master® Interactive Vision™ is based upon concepts developed by ACTV, Inc.

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